Educational institutions under UGC

†4408. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the educational institutions in the country are registered under University Grants Commission's Act, 1956;

(b) if so, the number of institutions which were registered all over the country by the end of December, 2002; and

(c) what was the maximum capacity of imparting vocational education, technical education, medical education, engineering education and general education in these institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), as on 31-12-2002, 275 universities and 5323 colleges were listed under Section 2(f) of the UGC Act.

(c) The student enrolment in universities and colleges in the formal system of education during the year 2001-02 was estimated as 88.21 lakhs.

Regulation of foreign institutions

4409. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proliferation of foreign universities operating in India offering diploma, graduate and post-graduate courses in engineering and technology;

(b) if so, whether Government feel to enforce regulations on such universities through a competent regulatory body; and

(c) if so, what measures Government contemplate to initiate in this regard?

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) As per the information furnished by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), it has come to their notice that some foreign institutions/ universities are operating in India offering various programmes in Engineering & Technology. AICTE has notified Regulations dated 3rd April 2003 for Entry and Operation of Foreign Universities/ Institutions imparting technical education in India. AICTE has also constituted a Task Force to implement the Regulations from the academic year 2003-2004.

Revamping higher education

4410. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to revamp higher education with flexibility to combine various subjects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to improve quality of programmes in each subject?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) Revamping of Higher Education is a continuous process. As informed by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the UGC has constituted a Committee to revise the career-oriented courses (vocational courses) to make the career oriented programme more flexible and need based.

The UGC has also introduced a number of new quality initiatives, which include (i) Universities with potential for excellence; (ii) College with potential for excellence; (iii) Digital Repository of Research & Teaching Material; and (iv) UGC-Net: Intranet and Internet connectivity for Colleges and Universities, etc.

100 per cent literacy

4411. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the percentage of literate persons in the country; and